Johnson 1995c

STREAM: Jenny Creek

DRAINAGE: West Fork Jarbidge River via Jack Creek

WATER CODE: 1211

GAWS COMPUTER NO.: 170501,05,155,035,045,005

SURVEY DATE: August 26, 31, and September 1, 1992

REPORT DATE: April 7, 1995

WRITTEN BY: Gary Lee Johnson

SURVEY METHODOLOGY: The United States Forest Service Region 4, Level III Fisheries Habitat Survey Method (March, 1989) was utilized at two Sample Sites (SS's) on the lower portion of creek that was flowing. The first 100 feet at each sample site was sampled for fish using a one pass effort with a Dirigo backpack electroshocker. A ¼-inch mesh block net was positioned at the downstream end of the electrofished area to prevent fish loss. Captured trout were measured (fork length), weighed, and released following electrofishing. Young-of-year trout were only measured.

Aquatic macroinvertebrate type and relative abundance, as well as substrate composition were assessed visually, using a random inspection at each sample site. The first of five stream habitat evaluation transects began at the end of each 100 foot long fish sample area. Additional transects were placed at 50 foot intervals at SS-2 and at 25 foot intervals at SS-1. Stream velocity was calculated through the use of a floating object, over a set interval. Both air and water temperatures were recorded at each site with the use of a hand held thermometer. Basic water quality parameters were measured using a HACH KIT.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND ACCESS: Jenny Creek lies wholly within the Humboldt National Forest and is public land administered by the Jarbidge District. From the north outskirts of Jarbidge, Nevada, four-wheel drive is recommended to access Jenny Creek via the Powerline Road.

WATERSHED DESCRIPTION: Jenny Creek is approximately 2.3 miles long and is situated in a northerly facing, 1081 acre mountainous drainage. Drainage elevation ranges from 9470 feet to 6320 feet at the confluence of Jenny and Jack Creeks. The drainage vegetation community consists of mountain shrub, mountain mahogany, aspen and fir types. The valley bottom average width was 61 feet within the lower drainage. The valley sideslopes were moderate to steep. The geological parent material in the basin consists of volcanic rock (Million-Scale Geologic Map of Nevada - 1977).

WATER STATUS: At the time of survey, Jenny Creek flow commenced from the streambed at 6760 foot elevation and continued downstream 0.6 miles to Jack Creek. Streamflow discharge ranged from 0.06 cfs at SS-2 to 0.17 cfs at SS-1. Jenny Creek was dry above SS-2 for an unknown distance upstream. Mean water width across habitat transects was 4.6 feet. Mean and maximum stream depth were 0.08 ft. and 0.59 ft., respectively. The stream at time of sampling was at low flow and clear. Stream temperatures ranged from a morning reading at SS-1 of 44°F to an afternoon reading of 51°F at SS-2. Water chemical properties indicate a rather sterile conditions for good fish growth (see below).

Time	1400 hrs
pH	7.0
Alkalinity	34.2 ppm
Hardness	17.1 ppm
D.O.	10.0 ppm
CO2	5.0 ppm

STREAM HABITAT CONDITION INDEX (HCI): The stream habitat condition Index (HCI) ratings were 71.8 and 72.8 percent of optimum at SS-1 and SS-2, respectively. Both the HCI ratings were indicative of "good" trout stream conditions. Individual "poor" rated HCI parameters included percent optimum pool structure at both SS's. and bank cover percent optimum at SS-1.

STREAM CHANNEL TYPE AND STABILITY: Using Rosgen's Stream Classification Guide, the stream resembled an A3 type channel at SS-1 and an A-2 channel at SS-2. Stream gradient ranged from 11% at SS-1 to 4% at SS-2. The stream stability rating was classified as "good" at both SS's with each score totaling 72. The channel showed some down cutting and natural sloughing at channel meanders. There was no apparent damage due to ungulate grazing. The stream gradient was 11% at SS-1 and 4-9% at SS-2. Large to medium sized organic debris was present over about 30% of the channel area.

RIPARIAN DESCRIPTION: The riparian vegetation consisted of alder, aspen, cottonwood, baneberry, willow, rose, grass, sedge and forbs at SS-1. At SS-2 the riparian community was dominated by aspen and grass with minor amounts of the above mentioned shrubs and some forbs. Riparian communities both rated in "good" condition. Streamside vegetation provided an average stream canopy of 63%. Riparian width ranged from 89 feet at SS-1 to 49 feet at SS-2.

HABITAT VULNERABILITY: Habitat vulnerability to management activities rated as "moderate" for this stream. Streambank sensitivity as determined from the combined ratings for upper bank vegetative protection and lower bank rock content was 9 and 10 for SS-1 and SS-2, respectively. A combined score of >13 indicates that one season of moderate livestock activity can result in

damaged streambanks. No grazing use or ungulate streambank was noted along the surveyed reach of stream.

AQUATIC BIOTA: Native rainbow /redband trout were only found at SS-1. Including fish seen but not netted (one young-of-year and one fingerling) their were an estimated 422.4 subcatchables per mile or an estimated 42 trout in the 0.1 mile of occupied stream. Low stream flow most likely precluded trout from upstream areas.

Three species of mayflies were abundant and two species of caddisfly larvae were commonly seen. Other aquatic organisms noted included, planaria, stonefly larvae, and water striders. The rocky nature of the streambottom and paucity of fine sediments provided a good environment for macroinvertebrate production.

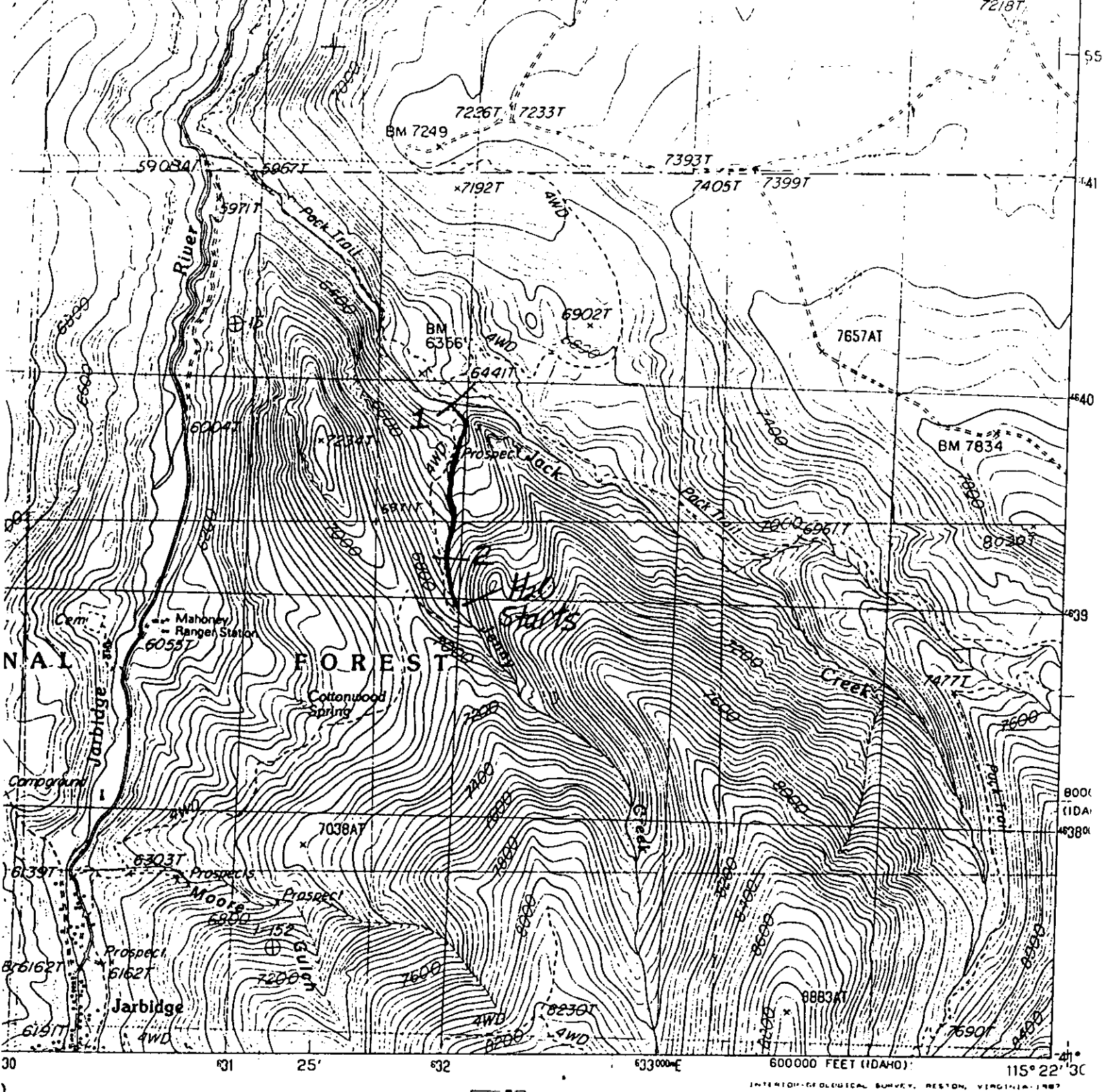
PREVIOUS FISH SURVEY: A 50 foot section of Jenny Creek located 150 yards upstream of Jack Creek was electrofished on August 16, 1974. One fingerling and a catchable-size rainbow/redband trout were captured (211.2 trout per mile). Fishery quality was noted as good.

BEAVER STATUS: There was a few old beaver cut aspen stumps noted at SS-2 but no activity noted at SS-1. The steep stream gradient and narrow valley bottom width would not make for suitable beaver occupancy. Willow only covered an estimated 5% of the riparian zone at both SS's hence, beaver would have to depend on the aspen for dam and forage resources.

STREAM'S IMPORTANCE: Jenny Creek supports a small native population rainbow/redband trout and because of its connection to the larger Jack Creek, it may provide habitat for the bull trout found in Jack Creek.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS: None

RECOMMENDATION: None



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